



**Move Forward with
Faith in Christ**



Hebrews 10:35-39

Jeffrey R. Holland, BYU Devotional, March 2, 1999.

“In LDS talk that is to say, "Sure it is tough — before you join the Church, while you are trying to join, and after you have joined." That is the way it has always been, Paul said, but don't "draw back," he warned. Don't panic and retreat. Don't lose your confidence. Don't forget how you once felt. Don't distrust the experience you had. That tenacity is what saved Moses when the adversary confronted him, and it is what will save you.”

Don't Draw Back



Hebrews 1-13

Yes, there are cautions and considerations to make, but once there has been genuine illumination, beware the temptation to retreat from a good thing. If it was right when you prayed about it and trusted it and lived for it, it is right now. Don't give up when the pressure mounts.... Don't give in. Certainly, don't give in to that being who is bent on the destruction of your happiness. He wants everyone to be miserable like unto himself. Face your doubts. Master your fears. "Cast not away therefore your confidence." Stay the course and see the beauty of life unfold for you.

Jeffrey R. Holland, BYU Devotional, March 2, 1999.



Hebrews 11:1-3

Take action based on the evidence which you have already received. Act in faith in what you know to be true. How do you know it to be true? Evidence!

Moroni 10:5

Once you have received the witness from the Spirit, you **KNOW** it to be true. Many questions, no doubts!

Many Questions No Doubts



Hebrews 1-13

These things I know by the
Power of the Holy Ghost:

- Jesus is the Redeemer & Lives
- His Atonement is real
- Joseph Smith is a prophet
- Russell M. Nelson is a prophet
- The scriptures are true
- Revelation is real
- Prayer really works
- ...

These things I Believe to be True:

- The Church is true
- God still works miracles
- The bishop is inspired by God
- The Church's Doctrine is true
- I can be clean from my sins
- ...

What I will do to Know:

- Ask inspired questions
- Seek by Study and Faith
- Seek from Divinely appointed sources
- Knock through prayer
- Act in Faith
- Live while I am learning
- John 7:17
- ...

Signed:

Date:

Living Your Testimony



Hebrews 1-13

Gordon B. Hinckley, *St. Louis Missouri Regional Conference, April 16, 1995*

The strength of the Church lies in the conviction carried in the hearts of its members, by the individual members of the Church. It is a privilege, it is the opportunity, it is the obligation of every Latter-day Saint to gain for himself or herself a certain knowledge that this is the work of the Almighty, that God our Eternal Father lives and watches over His children when they look to Him in faith, that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, the redeemer of all mankind, who rose from the dead to become the first fruits of them that slept. That testimony ... is the most precious possession that any of us can hold... If there are any lacking that testimony, you can get it. How? The Lord has said that he that doeth the will of the Father shall know of the doctrine, “whether it be of God or whether I speak of myself.” (John 7:17) That’s the way you gain a testimony. You do the will of the Father, and as certainly as you do the will of the Father, you will know the truth of the gospel, including the knowledge that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Process to Grow Your Faith



Hebrews 1-13

Alma 32:26-43

- Awake
- Arouse your Faculties
- Desire to Believe
- Experiment and Exercise
- Plant the Seed
- Do not Cast it Away
- Swelling and Sprouting
- Faith Becomes Dormant
- Nourish with Great Care
- Do NOT Neglect the Tree
- Faith, Diligence, Patience



Four Levels of Faith

Level 1 **Alma 32** Belief or Hope

Level 2 **Hebrews 11** Knowledge

Level 3 **Ether 12** Power

Level 4 **Moroni 7** Perfection

Taken from "Faith in the Lord Jesus Christ," by Gerald N. Lund
in Selected Writings of Gerald N. Lund: Gospel Scholars Series, 243, 246, 248, 251



Hebrews 11:4-16

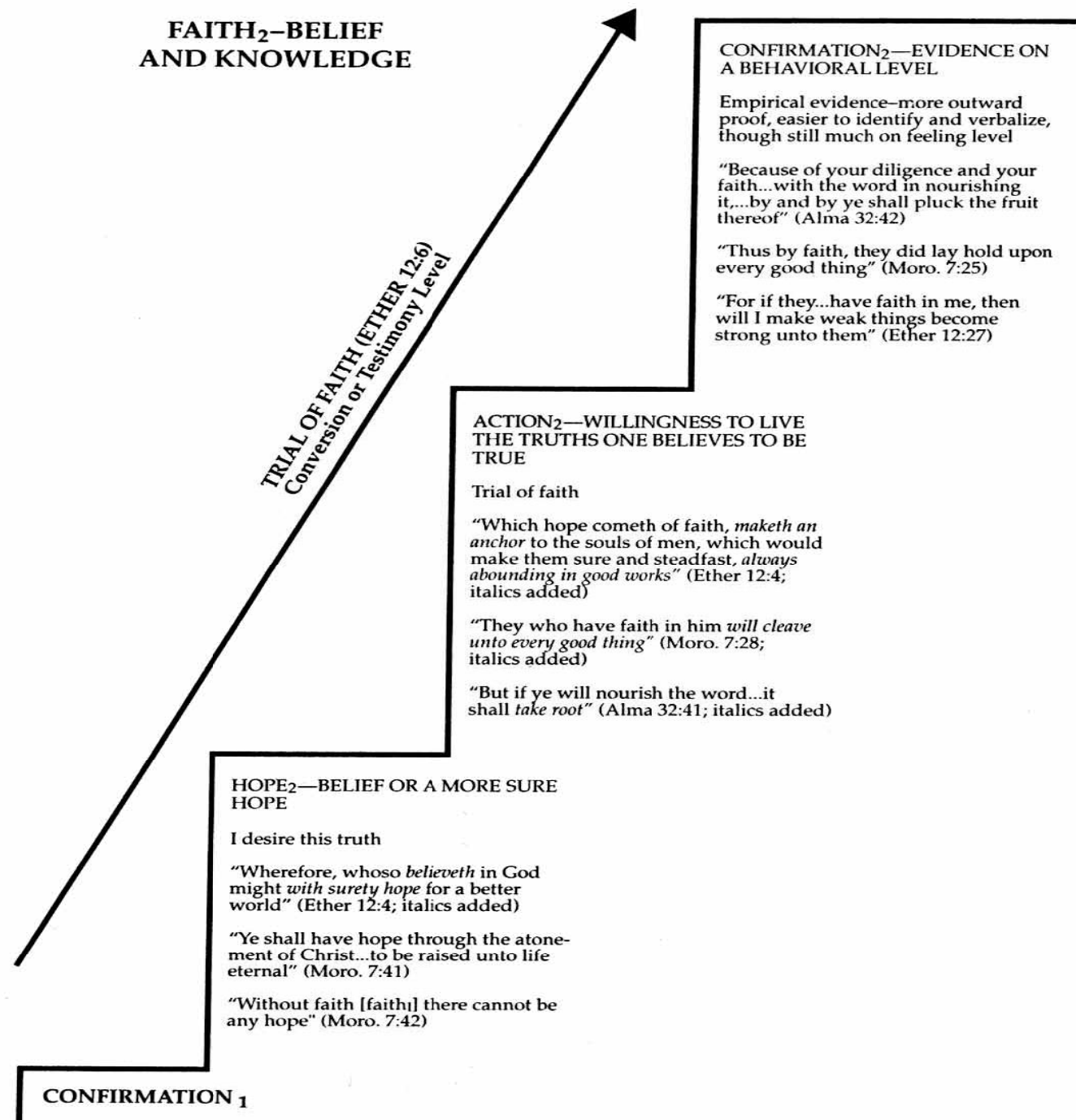
All the prophets had faith to act on what they did not know because of the things that they did know. They may not have received the promises in this life, but they embraced them and patterned their lives after a better world, confessing that this world is not what they seek, but they seek a place with God. If we are to enter and abide with God, we must live the way that he lives, even though we live in a telestial world.

Levels of Faith

Level Two:

Faith of Knowledge

(Hebrews 11)





Hebrews 12:1-4

Lay aside sin that so easily besets us

Run with patience the race before us

Look unto Jesus the Author and Finisher of our Faith

Joy that was set before Him

For the Joy Set Before Him



Hebrews 1-13

Russel M. Nelson, “Joy and Spiritual Survival,” *General Conference*, October 2016.

“Just as the Savior offers peace that “passeth all understanding,” He also offers an intensity, depth, and breadth of joy that defy human logic or mortal comprehension. For example, it doesn’t seem possible to feel joy when your child suffers with an incurable illness or when you lose your job or when your spouse betrays you. Yet that is precisely the joy the Savior offers. His joy is constant, assuring us that our “afflictions shall be but a small moment” and be consecrated to our gain. How, then, can we claim that joy? We can start by “looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith” “in every thought.” We can give thanks for Him in our prayers and by keeping covenants we’ve made with Him and our Heavenly Father.

For the Joy Set Before Him



Hebrews 1-13

“As our Savior becomes more and more real to us and as we plead for His joy to be given to us, our joy will increase. Joy is powerful, and focusing on joy brings God’s power into our lives. As in all things, Jesus Christ is our ultimate exemplar, “who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross.” Think of that! In order for Him to endure the most excruciating experience ever endured on earth, our Savior focused on joy! And what was the joy that was set before Him? Surely it included the joy of cleansing, healing, and strengthening us; the joy of paying for the sins of all who would repent; the joy of making it possible for you and me to return home—clean and worthy—to live with our Heavenly Parents and families. If we focus on the joy that will come to us, or to those we love, what can we endure that presently seems overwhelming, painful, scary, unfair, or simply impossible?”

Russel M. Nelson, “Joy and Spiritual Survival,” *General Conference*, October 2016.



Hebrews 12:1-4

Lay aside sin that so easily besets us

Run with patience the race before us

Look unto Jesus the Author and Finisher of our Faith

Joy that was set before Him

Endure Contradiction

Resist unto blood

Resisting Temptation and Sin



Hebrews 1-13

Only those who try to resist temptation know how strong it is... You find out the strength of a wind by trying to walk against it, not by lying down. A man who gives in to temptation after five minutes simply does not know what it would have been like an hour later. Christ, because He was the only man who never yielded to temptation, is also the only man who knows to the full what temptation means.

C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*, 109-110.



Hebrews 12:5-15

D&C 95:1

The process of perfection includes challenges to overcome and steps to repentance that may be very painful. There is a proper place for chastisement in the molding of character, for we know that “whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth.”

Russell M. Nelson, “Perfection Pending”, October 1995



Hebrews 12:22-28

Come unto the temple, representing the holy city and residence of God and trust in the redemption and perfection that are promised to those who come unto Christ, the rock, and become among those who are UNSHAKEN, though storms may come.



Things which cannot be Shaken

Strengthen Personal Foundation



Hebrews 1-13

“The foundation of any building, particularly one as large as this one, must be strong and resilient enough to withstand earthquakes, corrosion, high winds, and the inevitable settling that affects all buildings. The complex task of strengthening now underway will reinforce this sacred temple with the foundation that can and will stand the test of time. We are sparing no effort to give this venerable temple, which had become increasingly vulnerable, a foundation that will withstand the forces of nature into the Millennium. In like manner, it is now time that we each implement extraordinary measures—perhaps measures we have never taken before—to strengthen our personal spiritual foundations. Unprecedented times call for unprecedented measures. My dear brothers and sisters, these are the latter days. If you and I are to withstand the forthcoming perils and pressures, it is imperative that we each have a firm spiritual foundation built upon the rock of our Redeemer, Jesus Christ. **President Russell M. Nelson, “The Temple & Our Spiritual Foundation,” *General Conference*, October 2021**



**What must we do to sure up
our foundation so that we may
become “Unshaken?”**



Helaman 5:12

Matthew 7:24-25

Notice that those who build their lives on the teachings, atonement, and resurrection of Jesus Christ will face storms, trials, challenges, temptations, and difficulties just like every other person to live upon the earth. The difference lies in what these “storms” do to the individual. For those who are not built upon the Rock of their Redeemer, even Jesus Christ, they will fall. Those who build their lives upon Christ become steadfast and immovable.

Sanctified and Perfected in Christ



Hebrews 1-13

Hebrews 13:8-9, 12-16, 20-21

We must not allow every wind of doctrine to lead us away from Christ. He is the same yesterday, today, and forever. By his blood He will sanctify us and make us perfect in every good work to do his will if we will put our trust in Him and live to demonstrate our love for Him and our fellowman.

Moroni 10:32-33